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THE EMANUEL COUNTY STORY

Introduction

WELCOME LOCAL BUSINESS MEN

Emanuel County farmers wish to take this opportunity to extend a cordial welcome to our local business men to join with us in a roundtable discussion of any phase of the Agricultural Conservation Program and other farm agencies, with the view of developing a fuller understanding of our economic problems.

We feel that local business men realize that the farmers constitute the greatest single market and source of purchasing power in the county today. Prodded constantly by the necessity of housing, clothing, feeding and educating their families, and of keeping their farms and production equipment up to scratch, Emanuel County farmers quickly pass their income on to other hands.

Just how the local business man has prospered with the farmer who cooperates with the Agricultural Adjustment Administration's Program and other farm agencies operating in our county, is "The Emanuel County Story" we wish to submit to you.

Chapter I

THE AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION

PURPOSE: To give the farmers their fair share of the National income, to conserve National soil resources, and to guarantee consumers a steady and adequate supply of farm commodities at fair prices.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: It prevented agricultural collapse six years ago. It has helped to keep about 2,700 Emanuel County farmers in business since then. Under AAA programs, Emanuel County farmers have received $1,227,501.41 in benefit checks since 1933. Cash farm income available for liv-

ing is four times greater than in 1932. Income on Emanuel County's major crop, cotton, jumped from $350,000 in 1932, before the program, to $1,800,000 including benefit payments, in 1936. Today cotton income, including benefits, in Emanuel County is figured at $1,480,000. Ninety per cent of the benefit payments received by Emanuel County farmers were spent at home. Seventy per cent of the local retail sales, since 1933 have been CASH SALES.

Last year, Emanuel County farmers, cooperating in the program, planted 13,525 acres of winter legumes, built 1,078,200 feet of terraces, and planted 2,000 acres of pine seedlings in an effort to conserve our resources, prevent wasteful use of soil fertility, preserve, maintain and rebuild farm lands.

CHAPTER II

FARM SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

PURPOSE: To better living conditions of low-income farmers and their families by advancing them loans repayable over a five-year period for the purpose of making them self-supporting. These Farm Security loans are supervised and the administration works with each borrower individually in planning and developing a sound farm and home program. With the idea of rendering a permanent good to each family, not only in improved farm and home practices, the health problems are taken into consideration as well, and efforts are being made to correct through proper medical aid and a balanced diet to correct health problems these families are confronted with.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: By making loans to 279 low-income farmers in Emanuel County, the Farm Security Administration has helped establish some land-owners who otherwise could never own a farm. There are 1170 persons in 195 FSA families now receiving loans in Emanuel County. The FSA clients in this county have placed $200,000.00 in local banks for operating expenses and to purchase mules, cows, hogs, chickens, household equipment, wagons, plows and tools. All of this

money has been spent locally by farmers who, heretofore, were on relief rolls and among the low-income farm group in the county.

941 persons are receiving medical aid from local doctors, paying for their services through the Farm Security Administration at approximately $18.00 per family per year. This is money our doctors, heretofore, had not received, and through the Farm Security Administration, the county has been relieved of the medical expense for many of these families.

Quite a number of FSA farm families in Emanuel County have outstanding against them old debts which they have been unable to pay, and in order that the FSA may render them a permanent aid, it is necessary to make a close study of the debts of each individual family in order that the FSA may best determine the prospects for rehabilitation. Where debts are found to be excessive, the FSA, and the Farm Debt Adjustment Committee, established in the county have attempted to reduce and arrange the indebtedness of these families within their ability to pay. Unless this FDA work is done, these farmers would face the hazard of losing their property after the FSA has been paid, thus the real purpose of our efforts would be defeated.

Chapter III

FEDERAL LAND BANK

PURPOSE: To obtain Federal Land Bank loans for farmers and to service Land Bank Commissioner and Federal Land Bank loans.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: The Federal Farm Land Banks have saved 250 Emanuel County farms from foreclosures from 1933 to 1939. It has also saved farmers of this county $30,000 in interest payments.

Chapter IV

PRODUCTION CREDIT ASSOCIATION

PURPOSE: To establish a complete, permanent and cooperative credit

system for farmers and stockmen by bridging the gap between individual and Federal Intermediate Credit Banks.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Emanuel County farmers have received approximately $600,000 from the PCA for fertilizer and labor expenditures on their farms. The PCA extends credit to farmers to purchase livestock, fertilizer and to finance practically all the farmer's needs. Since the establishment of the PCA in 1934, Emanuel County farmers have found that farm credit is much easier obtained and that it has been put on a sounder basis in this county since 1934.

CHAPTER V

RURAL ELECTRIFICATION ADMINISTRATION

PURPOSE: To advance money to farmers for the purpose of constructing rural electric lines, thus establishing a modern system of electricity in our rural areas.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: There are now four electric corporations, made up of farmers, operating in Emanuel County. They have constructed 125 miles of electric lines in the rural areas of our county at a cost of $100,000. Now 425 farm homes have electric lights for the first time.

Chapter VI

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE

PURPOSE: To provide systematic instruction in agriculture to our farm youths and adults.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: There are 375 persons in Emanuel County receiving this instruction from competent instructors. Those attending Vocational classes have been made conscious of the importance of safeguarding the soil from erosion, to plant cover crops and to improve livestock in the county.

Chapter VII

EMANUEL COUNTY UNIT, DIVISION OF FORESTRY

PURPOSE: To Conserve and preserve the present stand of timber in Emanuel County, to insure an adequate future supply of timber, and to put into forestry production sub-marginal land.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: There has been a marked decrease in the number of forestry fires in the county. There has been a great increase in the enthusiasm on the part of the farmers for fire protection. During the past two years, there has been more than 2,000 acres reforested in this county. Technical information has been given to many farmers and to boys in regular meetings. The Forest Blade, local county paper, is making plans to publish a special edition on newsprint manufactured from pines grown in Emanuel County.

Chapter VIII

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE

PURPOSE: To bring information to all farmers from the College of Agriculture, Experiment Stations and United States Department of Agriculture, to help administer the Agricultural Conservation Program in the county and to help coordinate all other agricultural activities.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Through the county and home agents' offices, the Extension Service last year held 456 Educational Meetings in Emanuel County with an attendance of 11,509. The Extension staff has encouraged better farming methods, has helped to place purebred livestock in the county, has encouraged the use of soil building crops, has forwarded work among our 4-H club boys and girls, has touched upon practically every phase of farm and home life in the county, has helped to administer the AAA program, and has cooperated with all other agricultural agencies in carrying out a well-rounded farm program.

FARM AND CITY PROSPER TOGETHER

CONCLUSION: Realizing the many advantages offered us by the various farm agencies operating in our county, the Emanuel County farmers, decided to make a study of the business situation in the City of Swainsboro before and after our Federal Farm agencies were in operation.

We found the following interesting figures:

LOCAL MERCHANTS AND ENTIRE COUNTY

BENEFIT FROM PAYMENTS RECEIVED BY EMANUEL COUNTY FARMERS

UNDER AAA FARM PROGRAM

	Emanuel Co. Farmers Received	10 Swainsboro Merchants* Sold	County Taxes Collected	County Taxes Uncollected
1932- (Before Farm Payments)	Nothing	$296,727.23	$49,930.73	$93,283.48
1937- (Peak Year of Farm Payments)	$312,670.65	$589,630.67	$72,464.72	$62,066.84
1938- (About Normal Payment Year)	$290,960.92	$572,490.60	$53,488.35	$85,080.12

The bonded indebtedness of Emanuel County has been reduced from $356,000.00 in 1932 (before the Federal Farm Program) to $285,000.00 (after the Federal Farm Program has been in operation for five years).

* Merchants supplying these figures were divided into the following classification: 2 dry-goods stores, 2 drug stores, 2 automobile dealers and filling stations, 2 hardware stores, 1 shoe store, and 1 picture show.

COMBINED BANK DEPOSITS OF TWO SWAINSBORO BANKS

1932 - - - -$355,000.00 - - - Before Farm Payments Started

1933 - - - -$548,000.00 - - - 1st Year of Farm Payments

1934 - - - -$686,000.00 - - - 2nd Year of Farm Payments

1935 - - - -$803,000.00 - - - 3rd Year of Farm Payments

1936 - - - -$969,000.00 - - - 4th Year of Farm Payments

1937 - - - -$978,000.00 - - - 5th Year of Farm Payments

COMBINED BANK DEPOSITS OF TWO SWAINSBORO BANKS (Contd.)

1938 - - - -$1,032,000.00 - - - 6th Year of Farm Payments

1939 - - - -$1,211,000.00 - - - 7th Year of Farm Payments

POSTAL RECEIPTS SWAINSBORO POST OFFICE	YEAR	BUILDING PERMITS CITY OF SWAINSBORO
$7,106.94	1932	$11,500.00
$7,631.75	1933	$16,500.00
$9,688.59	1934	$24,000.00
$12,103.37	1935	$45,500.00
$12,261.79	1936	$89,600.00
$14,223.05	1937	$77,765.00
$15,658.04	1938	$211,200.00

DOMESTIC ELECTRIC CUSTOMERS IN EMANUEL COUNTY

1932 - - - - - - 510

1936 - - - - - - 600

1938 - - - - - 1,070

REFRIGERATOR SALES MADE BY SWAINSBORO OFFICE

OF GEORGIA POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY

1932 - - - - - - 45

1935 - - - - - - 70

1938 - - - - - - 125

AAA PAYMENTS

EMANUEL COUNTY	YEAR	STATE OF GEORGIA
$181,099.61	1936	$10,743,028.85
$312,670.65	1937	$18,703,822.79
$290,960.92	1938	$15,371,967.13

Emanuel County farmers have received a total of $1,227,501.41 in AAA payments since the Farm Program began in 1933.